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PM  
7:31  
WHITE HOUSE

**T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY**

**FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER**

**TO: AMBASSADOR BUNKER**

**WHS0025**

**APRIL 17, 1970**

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE  
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

**FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER**

**TO: AMBASSADOR BUNKER**

**SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S VIETNAM SPEECH**

**REFERENCE: WH0024 AND PREVIOUS**

1. YOU WILL HAVE SEEN ANNOUNCEMENT THAT PRESIDENT NIXON WILL MAKE HIS STATEMENT MONDAY, APRIL 20, 1970 LOCAL TIME, AT SAN CLEMENTE.

2. YOU WILL BE RECEIVING STATE CABLE AUTHORIZING YOU TO CONSULT WITH THIEU ON BASIS WITHDRAWAL PACE AT APPROXIMATELY SAME LEVEL (12,000 PER MONTH) AS PREVIOUSLY, WITH NUMBER IN ANY MONTH FLEXIBLE DEPENDING ON THE MILITARY SITUATION AT THE TIME.

3. THIS MESSAGE RECONFIRMS OUR PREVIOUS EXCHANGES THIS CHANNEL THAT PRESIDENT PLANS TO ANNOUNCE WITHDRAWAL OF 150,000 OVER NEXT YEAR. THIS DECISION NOT REPEAT NOT KNOWN TO 'ANYONE' ELSE HERE IN WASHINGTON AND WILL NOT BE REVEALED UNTIL JUST PRIOR HIS ANNOUNCEMENT.

4. YOU SHOULD SEE THIEU AND CONFIRM PRESIDENT'S DECISION TO ANNOUNCE LARGER RATE OVER PERIOD OF A YEAR. YOU SHOULD CONTINUE TO DISCUSS DECISION IN CONCEPTUAL TERMS, WITHOUT REPEAT WITHOUT GIVING THIEU PRECISE FIGURES.

5. YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO DISCUSS PRECISE FIGURES ROUGHLY 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH.

6. PLEASE STRESS TO THIEU AGAIN THAT PRESIDENT ATTACHES UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO SECRECY, THAT NO LEAKS MUST OCCUR FROM GVN SIDE, AND THAT ADVANCE DISCLOSURE WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP.

7. YOU MAY ALSO TELL HIM ON STRICTLY PERSONAL BASIS THAT PRESIDENT HAS ORDERED ATTACKS ON TWO (2) SAM SITES IN NORTH VIETNAM. THESE SHOULD OCCUR WITHIN NEXT 48 HOURS. THIS INFORMATION TOO MUST BE HELD ABSOLUTELY SECRET.

EYES ONLY